

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4 – 10 and 16 – 22.

1. (Original) A method of expressing proteins comprising the steps of
  - (a) placing a DNA sequence encoding a protein or peptide in an expression vector comprising a regulatable promoter expressible in *Rhodospirillum rubrum*, and
  - (b) expressing the protein within a bacterial host, wherein the host has extra capacity for membrane formation and wherein the host is a member of the genus *Rhodospirillum*.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the protein or peptide is a membrane protein or peptide.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the protein or peptide is a heterologous protein or peptide.
- 4 – 10 (Cancelled)
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ ~~40~~ wherein the host is *Rhodospirillum rubrum* P5 or *Rhodospirillum rubrum* P4.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the expression vector comprises a promoter that can be induced by reduction of oxygen tension.

13. (Original) A protein expression system comprising:  
a vector comprising a DNA molecule encoding a protein or peptide in an expression vector comprising a regulatable promoter expressible in *R. rubrum*, wherein the vector is contained within a host of the genus *Rhodospirillum* and wherein the host has extra capacity for membrane formation.

14. (Original) The protein expression system of claim 13 wherein the protein or peptide is a heterologous protein or peptide.

15. (Original) The protein expression system of claim 13 wherein the protein or peptide is a membrane protein or peptide.

16 – 22 (Cancelled)